GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2007
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2005
BIO-VILLAGE SCHEME
Murmu Shri Hemlal

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Bio Villages Schemes operating in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend the Bio-villages concept throughout the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes sir. The department has funded four biovillage projects under the scheme Biotechnology- based Programmes for Rural Development` to benefit the farmers and rural folk. In Gujarat, a model biovillage was sanctioned in 1997-98 at Mocha-Gorsar village in Porbandar District to train the farmers in biofertilizer production, modern agro-technology, cultivation of various crop varieties and disease & pests management aspects including seaweeds cultivation, preparation of liquid seaweed fertilizer and cultivation of bio-diesel and fodder plants in the wasteland. A drinking water plant was established to produce 30,000 litres of drinking water per day through reverse osmosis to meet the demand of villagers.

In Madhya Pradesh, a biovillage project was sanctioned in 2001-02 for implementation at Naya Gaon,Bharuchi, Intkhedi, Dangarwada, Bahmani/Chapra, Patpara, Kalyanpur, Juari and Nitaya/Kalukheda villages in Katni, Mandla, Raisen, Jabalpur, Umaria, Shahdol, Betul and Hoshangabad districts for entrepreneurship development through training and demonstrations in various activities viz. mushroom cultivation, biofertilizers, sericulture, vermiculture, bee-keeping and honey harvesting, spirulina production, pisciculture, floriculture, lac-cultivation, post-harvest technologies and development of value added products. In Uttar Pradesh, a programme was sanctioned in 2002-03 to implement at Shahajahanpur district to demonstrate biofertilizer and biopesticides application in sugarcane crops, to educate the farmers about the use of Trichogramma as a biocontrol agent against sugarcane pests and to train them in cultivation of hybrid and high-yielding varieties of sugarcane. In West Bengal, a programme was sanctioned in 2001-02 at Nadia district to establish community seed village and to train the farmers in seed production technology of pulses, paddy and oilseeds as an enterprising occupation.

(b) & (c) As such, DBT has no scheme for extending the bio-village concept throughout the country.

(d) The department has a scheme on `Biotech-based Programmes for Societal Upliftment`, which is being implemented throughout the country to benefit SC/ST, women and rural people through demonstration and training programmes conducted in proven and field-tested technologies.